

CRL LAST CHANGED EXTENSION OR ATTRIBUTE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for generating a CRL with a last_changed extension. When sequential CRLs are generated there is the potential that there will be no changes in the data associated with the CRL. In this case a recipient of the new CRL may needlessly perform processing on the new CRL. A CRL consistent with embodiments of the present invention provides an extension to specify the CRL number of the last_changed CRL. This provides the recipient with information to determine whether the new CRL should be processed or the existing data is up to date.